

Ocean Energy Management, Interior

§ 551.5

Refer to 30 CFR part 250 if you plan to conduct G&G activities related to oil, gas, or sulphur under terms of a lease.

(b) Federal agencies are exempt from the regulations in this part.

(c) G&G exploration or G&G scientific research related to minerals other than oil, gas, and sulphur is covered by regulations at 30 CFR part 580.

§ 551.4 Types of G&G activities that require permits or Notices.

(a) *Exploration.* You must have a BOEM-approved permit to conduct G&G exploration, including deep stratigraphic tests, for oil, gas, or sulphur resources. If you conduct both geological and geophysical exploration, you must have a separate permit for each.

(b) *Scientific research.* You may only conduct G&G scientific research related to oil, gas, and sulphur in the OCS after you obtain a BOEM-approved permit or file a Notice.

(1) *Permit.* You must obtain a permit if the research activities you propose to conduct involve:

- (i) Using solid or liquid explosives;
- (ii) Drilling a deep stratigraphic test; or
- (iii) Developing data and information for proprietary use or sale.

(2) *Notice.* Any other G&G scientific research that you conduct related to oil, gas, and sulphur in the OCS requires you to file a Notice with the Regional Director at least 30 days before you begin. If circumstances preclude a 30-day Notice, you must provide oral notification and followup in writing. You must also inform BOEM in writing when you conclude your work.

§ 551.5 Applying for permits or filing Notices.

(a) *Permits.* You must submit a signed original and three copies of the BOEM permit application form (Form BOEM-0327). The form includes names of persons; the type, location, purpose, and dates of activity; and environmental and other information. A nonrefundable service fee of \$2,012 must be paid electronically through *Pay.gov* at: <https://www.pay.gov/paygov/>, and you must include a copy of the *Pay.gov* confirmation receipt page with your application.

(b) *Disapproval of permit application.* If BOEM disapproves your application for a permit, the Regional Director will state the reasons for the denial and will advise you of the changes needed to obtain approval.

(c) *Notices.* You must sign and date a Notice and state:

- (1) The name(s) of the person(s) who will conduct the proposed research;
- (2) The name(s) of any other person(s) participating in the proposed research, including the sponsor;
- (3) The type of research and a brief description of how you will conduct it;
- (4) The location in the OCS, indicated on a map, plat, or chart, where you will conduct research;
- (5) The proposed dates you project for your research activity to start and end;
- (6) The name, registry number, registered owner, and port of registry of vessels used in the operation;
- (7) The earliest practicable time you expect to make the data and information resulting from your research activity available to the public;
- (8) Your plan of how you will make the data and information you collected available to the public;
- (9) That you and others involved will not sell or withhold for exclusive use the data and information resulting from your research; and
- (10) At your option, you may submit (as a substitute for the material required in paragraphs (c)(7), (c)(8), and (c)(9) of this section) the nonexclusive use agreement for scientific research attachment to Form BOEM-0327.

(d) *Filing locations.* You must apply for a permit or file a Notice at one of the following locations:

- (1) For the OCS off the State of Alaska—the Regional Supervisor for Resource Evaluation, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Alaska OCS Region, 3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite # 500, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-58232.
- (2) For the OCS off the Atlantic Coast and in the Gulf of Mexico—the Regional Supervisor for Resource Evaluation, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.